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Gerald W. George

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National Archives



National Historical Publications and Records Commission

Washington, DC 20408

91 JUL 15 AM 10:26

July 10, 1991

Honorable Claiborne Pell
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-6300

Dear Senator Pell:

On April 12, 1991, you wrote to me expressing your support for the Supreme Court of Rhode Island's grant proposal to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) for a Rhode Island Historical Court Records Project.

The Commission considered the court's proposal during its meeting of June 27, 1991, but declined to support the project. In reaching its decision on the project, the Commission was concerned that no overall preservation plan had been submitted with the proposal and that there were no plans for funding to address the conservation needs of the collection beyond the close of the grant period. Last year the Commission funded a one-year project to arrange and describe the court's records and provided a conservation consultant to assist the court in planning for its collection. The Commission felt that the state should fund the basic preservation activities proposed in this project and that any further Commission support ought to be used to leverage the additional funding needed to sustain a preservation program.

Although the Commission did not support the Supreme Court of Rhode Island's project, I am pleased to report that the Commission did recommend grants to two Rhode Island towns, the Town of New Shoreham and the Town of Jamestown, to assist them in evaluating their current records policies and to provide advice on establishing archives and records management programs.

If you have further questions regarding any of these proposals, please call on me and the Commission staff. My phone number is (202) 501-5600.

Thank you for your interest in the NHPRC and its work.

Sincerely,

Gerald W. George
Executive Director